

No more 'coffee cup guilt' with new takeaway product for soil regeneration

Compostable Alternatives Wednesday, June 1st, 2022

Certified home compostable coffee cup and lid changes the coffee story for cafes and hospitality venues.

Australian startup Compostable Alternatives is working with Closed Loop Environmental Solutions and Responsible Cafes to eliminate the mountain of coffee cups going to landfill.

The company, which in 2021 won the 7 News Young Achiever and Carbon Neutral Adelaide awards, has launched [Compost After Coffee](#), the most affordable, certified home compostable alternative coffee cup, one that fuels veggie gardens instead of polluting the environment.

Co-founder Marion Vigot said her team had researched and tested various materials before she discovered an innovation that could be "home composted after coffee" in just a couple of weeks.

"The cups and lids are internationally certified to break down in under six months in a home compost setup," Ms Vigot said. "They are made from sustainably sourced paper pulp including aqueous barrier technology and, unlike all current options, they don't have a plastic or bioplastic lining."

Closed Loop Environmental Solutions Managing Director Rob Pascoe adds, "We all love our morning cup of coffee. And we all love the convenience of the to-go cup. We also all know that single-use cups are a major source of waste in our environment, and we want to do something about it."

Exclusively available on the Compostable Alternatives website from 1 June 2022, the cups will be delivered in FSC certified paper sleeves, instead of traditional plastic.

"It's been incredibly challenging to navigate the many compostable promises of suppliers and manufacturers," Ms Vigot said. "But now we have a product that matches our expectations and the expectations of the hospitality sector for sustainability."

According to the Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, the plastic lining on the inside of traditional cups prevents them from being recycled through normal processes.

Most recent compostable options require specific processing and dedicated commercial composting facilities, which are few and far between in regional Australia.

The APCO 2021 report on National Compostable Packaging Strategy states that about 13% of compostable packaging produced in 2018-19 was recovered through composting.

"The reality is that most compostable packaging and tableware ends up in landfill," Ms Vigot said.

"That's not good enough and we want to give everyone the opportunity to process their food waste and packaging in their backyards instead of relying on third party waste processors to deal with it."

Contact Profile

Compostable Alternatives

Compostable Alternatives is a regenerative packaging brand and Australia's leading e-commerce specialised in certified home compostable products. Its range of certified products guarantees a safe breakdown in anyone's backyard or home compost in under 24 weeks. Along with food and other garden waste, your efforts support new resources to grow again.

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Another way to dispose of Compostable Alternatives' latest innovation is through Closed Loop Environmental Solutions' dedicated Australian recycling program "Simply Cups", allowing used cups to be recycled into higher value items.

Ms Vigot was appointed general manager of Responsible Cafes late last year. The grass-roots and volunteer-led community connects a network of 5,000 sustainable cafes with millions of eco-conscious customers looking to reduce, reuse, recycle or compost.

Featured in ABC War on Waste in 2017, the organisation has been instrumental in promoting the "BYO and get a discount" movement for many years

"Certified home compostable is the best alternative when reusables are not possible," Ms Vigot said.

"Solving the coffee cup and lid challenge seemed like a natural evolution for us to positively impact the future of packaging."

About "Compost After Coffee" cups and lids

Compost After Coffee is a range of certified home compostable cups and lids that break down completely after use, so they won't end up in a landfill. Supported by Responsible Cafes, these cups are designed to give Compostable Alternatives the competitive edge with their sustainably-minded customers.

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Media enquiries

Please contact Compostable Alternatives co-founder and CEO Marion Vigot for further questions or information at hello@compostablealternatives.com.au or 0452 543 630





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